

## CHAPTER XVI. 1809.

Demands for contingents from some of the small States of Germany — M. Metternich — Position of Russia with respect to France — Union of Austria and Russia — Return of the English to Spain — Soult King of Portugal, and Murat successor to the Emperor — First levy of the landwehre in Austria — Agents of the *Hamburg Correspondant* — Declaration of Prince Charles — Napoleon's march to Germany — His proclamation — Bernadotte's departure for the army — Napoleon's dislike of Bernadotte — Prince Charles's plan of campaign — The English at Cuxhaven — Fruitlessness of the plots of England — Napoleon wounded — Napoleon's prediction realized — Major Schill — Hamburg threatened and saved — Schill in Lübeck — His death, and destruction of his band — Schill imitated by the Duke of Brunswick (Els) — Departure of the English from Cuxhaven.

BONAPARTE, the foundations of whose Empire were his sword and his victories, and who was anxiously looking forward to the time when the sovereigns of Continental Europe should be his *juniors*, applied for contingents of troops from the States to which I was accredited.<sup>1</sup> The Duchy of Mecklen-burg-Schwerin was to furnish a regiment of 1800 men, and the other little States, such as Oldenburg and Mecklenburg-Strelitz, were to furnish regiments of less amount. All Europe was required to rise in arms to second the gigantic projects of the new sovereign. This demand for contingents, and the positive way in which the Emperor insisted upon them, gave rise to an immense correspondence, which, however, was unattended by any result. The notes and orders remained in the portfolios, and the contingents staid at home.<sup>2</sup>

M. Metternich,<sup>3</sup> whose talent has since been so conspicu-

<sup>1</sup> The contingents required were those the States of the Confederation of the Rhine were bound to furnish; see note on the Confederation, p. 40.

<sup>2</sup> On the contrary some served in Spain for several years, and others participated in the severities of the Russian campaign.

<sup>3</sup> Metternich arrived in Paris as Ambassador on 4th August, 1806, after Austria had been vanquished at Austerlitz. It does not seem probable, either from his views or his correspondence, that he advised the rash attempt